



DONALD L. WOLFE, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
Telephone: (626) 458-5100
www.ladpw.org

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: T-3
A2004F

August 23, 2006

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Donald L. Wolfe *DW*
Director of Public Works

BENZ ROAD AND CANTERWOOD DRIVE, SANTA CLARITA TRAFFIC VOLUME REDUCTION MEASURES BOARD MOTION OF MAY 23, 2006 (AGENDA ITEM 30)

This is in response to the May 23, 2006, Board motion directing Public Works to report back to the Board within 90 days on (1) the effectiveness of the turn restrictions to reduce cut-through traffic volumes on Benz Road and Canterwood Drive and (2) the feasibility of installing a fire gate at the intersection of Cross Creek Drive and Canterwood Drive. Attached is a copy of the minutes from the Board meeting.

Turn restriction signs were installed on Copper Hill Drive at Buckhorn Lane, Benz Road at Bouquet Canyon Road, and Sue Drive at Bouquet Canyon Road in June 2006. Changeable message signs were placed on Plum Canyon Road, Bouquet Canyon Road, and Copper Hill Drive to inform motorists of the turn restrictions. Data recently provided by the City of Santa Clarita reveals a reduction in traffic volumes on Benz Road, from about 3,200 to 2,100 vehicles per day. This reduction is consistent with the City's expectation. The City will continue to monitor traffic volumes on Benz Road and work with us to determine if any additional measures are needed.

Our monitoring of volumes on Buckhorn Lane revealed a 13 percent increase in traffic between March and June 2006. Recent counts taken after installation of the turn restrictions show volumes consistent with March 2006 traffic of about 500 vehicles per day.

Each Supervisor
August 23, 2006
Page 2

To address the cut-through traffic on Buckhorn Lane and Cross Creek Drive, we met on site with representatives of Fire and Sheriff's Departments, the California Highway Patrol (CHP), and the Fifth District to discuss the feasibility of a fire gate on Canterwood Drive at the City/County boundary. It was determined that a fire gate was not recommended due to safety and access issues. However, we presented an alternate cul-de-sac concept that would effectively close Canterwood Drive to through traffic. The attendees concurred that the concept appears feasible from an engineering and emergency access standpoint.

We have forwarded the concept to the Fire and Sheriff's Departments, and the CHP for their formal review. We will keep Fifth District staff apprised of the progress of this review and the schedule and cost for the possible improvement.

If you have any questions, please call me or your staff may contact Bill Higley at (626) 458-4016.

PJB:kw
P:\t\pub\wpfiles\files\pjb\Item 30 Benz.doc

Attach.

cc: Chief Administrative Office
Executive Office

